



PRECISEU

Joint Interregional Projects (JIP) Guide for applicants

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This guide is intended to facilitate proposal preparation. The Open Call Terms and Conditions constitute the legally binding framework of the call. The applicable Regional Annexes set out the specific funding conditions defined by each participating Funding Agency. In the event of any discrepancy between this Guide and these documents, the Terms and Conditions and the applicable Regional Annexes shall prevail.



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1. About the PRECISEU project

1.1. General information

PRECISEU is a Horizon Europe project focused on strengthening interregional innovation ecosystems in personalised medicine. The initiative is intended to reduce fragmentation, improve collaboration across territories and support the uptake of advanced health solutions through a combination of ecosystem-building activities and a competitive open call. The open call provides financial support to third parties for Joint Interregional Projects, referred to throughout the call documents as JIPs.

For applicants, the practical consequence is that the proposal must not be treated as a stand-alone regional application. PRECISEU expects each project to have a genuine European and interregional logic, with complementary partners, a credible innovation pathway and a clear link to the personalised medicine priorities described in the call.

1.2. Objectives

The PRECISEU Open Call is designed to fund Innovation Action-like projects that accelerate the development, validation or implementation readiness of solutions in personalised medicine. The call particularly seeks proposals that improve accessibility and affordability, reinforce regional innovation capacity, strengthen Europe's position in advanced therapeutics and health data, and promote knowledge transfer across ecosystems.

Applicants should therefore formulate their proposal in a way that connects technical progress with regional and European added value. A strong application explains not only what the consortium will develop, but also why the interregional setting is necessary and how the work will contribute to more effective, equitable and scalable personalised medicine solutions.

1.3. Consortium partners and regions

PRECISEU brings together a broad consortium of ecosystem actors, including innovation agencies, regional authorities, research organisations, clusters and healthcare-related partners. Not all PRECISEU regions are funding regions, and not all PRECISEU partners act as Funding Agencies. This distinction is central to eligibility and budget planning.

The table below summarises the PRECISEU partnership and indicates whether the partner acts as a Funding Agency within the Open Call framework.

Partner	Region	Country	Funding Agency
Biocat	Catalonia	Spain	No
Departament de Salut – Generalitat de Catalunya	Catalonia	Spain	Yes



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Partner	Region	Country	Funding Agency
ACCIÓ	Catalonia	Spain	Yes
Barcelona Supercomputing Center	Catalonia	Spain	No
BioRN Cluster Management GmbH	Baden-Württemberg	Germany	No
BIOPRO Baden-Württemberg GmbH	Baden-Württemberg	Germany	Yes
North-East Regional Development Agency	Nord-Est	Romania	Yes
Digital Innovation Zone	Nord-Est	Romania	No
IMAGO-MOL Cluster	Nord-Est	Romania	No
Health & Life Sciences Cluster Bulgaria	Bulgaria	Bulgaria	No
Clust-ER Health	Emilia-Romagna	Italy	No
Regione Emilia-Romagna	Emilia-Romagna	Italy	Yes
ART-ER	Emilia-Romagna	Italy	No
BIOVIA	Flanders	Belgium	No
Dept. Economy, Science & Innovation	Flanders	Belgium	No
Innovation Agency Lithuania	Lithuania	Lithuania	Yes
Business Region Göteborg	Gothenburg	Sweden	No
EATRIS	Netherlands	Netherlands	No
Plataforma de Organizaciones de Pacientes	Spain	Spain	No
Region of Crete	Crete	Greece	Yes
FORTH	Crete	Greece	No
Science & Technology Park of Crete	Crete	Greece	No
Rivne Interregional Medical Cluster	Rivne	Ukraine	No
AstraZeneca	Multi-country	Sweden / EU	No
Agencia de Transformación Digital Castilla-La Mancha	Castilla-La Mancha	Spain	Yes
Lazio Innova S.p.A.	Lazio	Italy	Yes



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Partner	Region	Country	Funding Agency
NIBRT	Ireland	Ireland	Yes

1.4. PRECISEU Funding Agencies

Funding under the open call is provided by the participating Funding Agencies. They contribute regional or national resources alongside Horizon Europe funding and **may impose additional conditions through the regional annexes**. Applicants should read the general call text together with the specific regional annex that applies to each funded beneficiary.

Region	Funding Agency	Indicative envelope
Catalonia	Departament de Salut – Generalitat de Catalunya	€3,000,000
Catalonia	ACCIÓ	€600,000
Baden-Württemberg	BIOPRO Baden-Württemberg GmbH	€1,600,000
Castilla-La Mancha	Agencia de Transformación Digital Castilla-La Mancha	€1,100,000
Nord-Est	North-East Regional Development Agency	€1,070,000
Emilia-Romagna	Regione Emilia-Romagna	€1,800,000
Lithuania	Innovation Agency Lithuania	€200,000
Crete	Region of Crete	€600,000
Lazio	Lazio Innova S.p.A.	€1,100,000
Ireland	NIBRT	€500,000

This funding architecture means that eligibility, funding rate and even payment modalities may differ between beneficiaries in the same consortium. Budget preparation must therefore be undertaken jointly but checked individually against the relevant regional conditions.

1.5. Timeline of the call

The call follows a single-stage application procedure. The dates below should be treated as operational milestones for applicants and for internal consortium planning.



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Stage	Date or period
Launch of the open call	13 April 2026
Deadline for submission	14 June 2026 at 17:00 CET
Evaluation period	15 June 2026 – 31 July 2026
Announcement of results	31 July 2026
Grant Agreement preparation	1 August 2026 – 30 September 2026
Grant signature	Until 30 September 2026
Earliest project starting date	1 October 2026
Latest project end date	31 March 2029

2. Application procedure

The application process consists of one submission stage. Proposals must be prepared in English, using the official templates, and uploaded through the PRECISEU website. The proposal package consists of Part A, Part B and Part C, and all mandatory documents must be submitted by the coordinator before the deadline. Part B is limited to 30 pages; pages beyond that limit will not be considered during evaluation.

Because the call combines a common interregional framework with region-specific conditions, applicants should not postpone the administrative checks until the end of drafting. A robust submission process should start with verification of the consortium's eligibility logic, then continue with PIC checks, regional eligibility confirmation and budget alignment, before the technical narrative is finalised.

2.1. Submission of proposals

The coordinator is responsible for submitting the application electronically, including the signed documentation required by the call. After submission, the coordinator receives a confirmation indicating the date and time of filing. **Some regions may also require an additional regional or national submission, or supporting documents to be sent directly to the relevant Funding Agency.** Where such parallel obligations exist, applicants must comply with them within the applicable deadlines.

A practical recommendation is to avoid treating submission as a purely technical final step. Consortia should establish an internal submission calendar with earlier deadlines for partner data, final budget sign-off, ethics confirmations and signature collection. This is especially important when the consortium includes partners subject to extra regional rules or self-funded participants that must provide commitment letters.

2.2. Structure of the application

Part A contains the project's administrative data, consortium information and declarations. Part B is the Description of the Action and is assessed under the award criteria of Relevance, Impact, and Quality. Part



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C is the financial annex, where applicants must translate the work plan into a consistent and credible lump-sum budget. None of these parts should be drafted in isolation. Evaluators will read them as one integrated application.

2.3. Relevant terminology used in the application template

The application template uses a terminology that is standard in Horizon Europe and that should be used consistently throughout the proposal. The definitions below are particularly important because they frame the evaluator’s reading of Part B.

Term	Meaning for applicants
Objectives	The goals of the work performed within the project, expressed in terms of research and innovation content and translated into concrete project results.
Results	What is generated during project implementation, such as know-how, prototypes, datasets, demonstrators, new services, business models or guidelines.
Outcomes	The medium-term effects of the project results, especially their uptake, use or adoption by the intended target groups.
Impacts	The wider long-term effects of the project on science, society, the economy or the environment.
Pathway to impact	The logic that links project results to dissemination, exploitation and communication activities, then to outcomes and finally to wider impacts.
Deliverable	A formal project output to be submitted for monitoring purposes, such as a report, plan, dataset description or technical document.
Milestone	A control point marking a key achievement, decision point or condition that enables the next stage of the project.
Critical risk	A plausible event or issue that could have a serious adverse impact on achieving the project objectives.
Research output	Results to which access can be given in the form of publications, data, software, algorithms, protocols or comparable outcomes.

Weak proposals often blur the distinction between results, outcomes and impacts. Applicants should therefore revise the draft with these definitions in mind. A prototype, a harmonised protocol or a validated data infrastructure is normally a result; its use by hospitals or companies is an outcome; the broader benefits for competitiveness, patient care or sustainability are impacts.



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3. Eligibility check

Eligibility is assessed before the scientific evaluation starts. If a proposal fails at this stage, it does not enter the award phase. Applicants should therefore verify all formal conditions before investing heavily in polishing the narrative. The most frequent issues concern consortium composition, regional funding logic, PIC validation, the status of self-funded partners and inconsistencies between technical scope and the call topic.

3.1. Eligible applicants

The call is open to legal entities from EU Member States and Horizon Europe Associated Countries. Eligible organisation types include companies, SMEs, research institutes, universities, technology centres, hospitals, public administrations, associations, NGOs and other relevant bodies, provided they have a validated PIC (validated before the Grant Agreement Signature). However, **eligibility for participation is not the same as eligibility for funding**. An entity may participate in a consortium and still be self-funded if it is established in a non-funding region or outside the PRECISEU funding geography.

Applicants must also not be in an exclusion situation. The call follows the EU Financial Regulation logic on exclusion, including bankruptcy, breach of tax or social security obligations, grave professional misconduct, fraud, corruption and related grounds. The declarations in the Declaration of Honour are not merely formal language: they become binding statements during grant preparation.

3.2. Eligible regions

Only beneficiaries established in regions covered by a participating Funding Agency are eligible to receive PRECISEU financial support. Other PRECISEU regions and other EU or associated countries may participate on a self-funded basis, subject to the conditions of the call. The table below summarises the funding status of the PRECISEU regions.

Region	Country	Eligible for PRECISEU funding
Catalonia	Spain	Yes
Baden-Württemberg	Germany	Yes
Nord-Est	Romania	Yes
Bulgaria	Bulgaria	No
Emilia-Romagna	Italy	Yes
Flanders	Belgium	No
Lithuania	Lithuania	Yes
Göteborg	Sweden	No
Netherlands	Netherlands	No



Region	Country	Eligible for PRECISEU funding
Madrid	Spain	No
Crete	Greece	Yes
Rivne	Ukraine	No
Castilla-La Mancha	Spain	Yes
Lazio	Italy	Yes
Ireland	Ireland	Yes

For consortia involving non-funded partners, the proposal should explain clearly why their participation is strategically necessary and how their contribution increases expected impact. If the partner is outside the PRECISEU geography, the call also requires proof that its financial resources are secured.

3.3. Eligible activities

The call targets deep-tech innovation in personalised medicine and supports activities centred on experimental development, typically at Technology Readiness Levels 6 to 8. The technical scope is organised around two topics: advanced therapeutics and health data for personalised medicine. Projects may address one topic or, where properly justified, both.

Eligible activities include, among others, scale-up work where genuine scientific or technical uncertainty remains, optimisation and validation of analytical methods, development of improved *in vivo*, *in silico* or *in vitro* models, generation of evidence to resolve technical uncertainty, end-user collaborative projects that support iterative experimental development, and regulatory-readiness activities linked to the innovation pathway. Activities related to routine market uptake, roll-out, commercial distribution or other purely commercial steps are not eligible.

Where clinical studies are envisaged, the proposal must explain why they are necessary and proportionate. Clinical activities are not automatically excluded, but they are scrutinised case by case, especially in relation to ethics, data protection, feasibility and budget realism.

3.4. Consortium requirements

Each consortium must include at least three independent legal entities established in three different Funding Agency regions, and at least two of those entities must be established in two different Member States. Each of those three entities must be eligible for funding and must request funding from the corresponding participating Funding Agency. In addition, each consortium must include at least one SME from a PRECISEU region.

A consortium may include at most one partner from a PRECISEU non-funding region and at most one partner from a non-PRECISEU region in the EU or a Horizon Europe Associated Country, subject to the



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conditions described in the call. Only entities from PRECISEU funding regions may coordinate a proposal. These conditions mean that the consortium logic should be designed before drafting begins; otherwise, proposals often become ineligible after substantial effort has already been invested.

3.5. Project duration

Projects must fit within the implementation window defined by the call, which runs overall from October 2026 to March 2029. The exact project duration should be justified by the proposed work, the maturity of the technology, the regulatory pathway and the delivery logic of the consortium. Applicants should also **verify whether the relevant regional annex imposes a stricter end date or reporting calendar** for specific beneficiaries.

4. Funding scheme

The PRECISEU Open Call uses a lump-sum funding model. In practice, this means that applicants must construct a budget that is a reliable proxy for the actual costs needed to achieve the project objectives, while understanding that monitoring will primarily focus on technical implementation and the achievement of results. The lump-sum model does not eliminate the need for sound budgeting; on the contrary, it increases the importance of internal coherence between tasks, effort, timing and requested resources.

4.1. Funding rates

As a general rule, and **unless a regional annex provides a more specific condition**, non-profit legal entities located in PRECISEU funding regions may receive up to 100% funding, while profit-making legal entities located in PRECISEU funding regions may receive up to 70%. Entities in non-funding PRECISEU regions and entities from other EU or Associated Countries participate without PRECISEU funding unless otherwise specified.

Participant type	Location	Indicative funding rate
Non-profit legal entity	PRECISEU funding region	Up to 100%
Profit-making legal entity	PRECISEU funding region	Up to 70%
Any entity	PRECISEU non-funding region	0% (self-funded)
Any entity	Outside PRECISEU geography	0% (self-funded)

Applicants should not assume that the same practical funding logic applies in every region. For example, some annexes introduce additional constraints on beneficiary types or impose different cost categories, audit requirements or payment conditions. The regional annex must therefore be checked for every funded beneficiary in the consortium.

4.2. Financial support offered



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The maximum financial contribution per project is €3,000,000. The maximum amount that a single legal entity may receive across all participating projects is, in principle, €600,000. If an entity requests more than that across multiple proposals, the call foresees a negotiation process. The funding requested in the proposal should therefore be realistic not only within the project itself, but also across the wider portfolio of applications in which the same entity participates.

Where an applicant participates in more than one consortium, internal coordination is essential to prevent duplicated effort, double funding risks or budget requests that exceed the legal-entity cap.

4.3. Form of payment

As a general rule, financial support under the PRECISEU Open Call is awarded as a lump sum and is monitored primarily against the proper technical implementation of the action and the achievement of results. However, applicants should note that this call operates within a mixed regional implementation framework. While the call uses a lump-sum logic at overall call level, some participating Funding Agencies may apply additional regional requirements relating to financial control, expenditure verification, audit, or cost reporting. These additional requirements do not alter the call-level funding model, but they do apply to the beneficiaries funded by the relevant regional authority. Applicants must therefore consult Annex 1 carefully and verify the conditions applicable to each funded partner.

Payment modalities, including pre-financing, interim payments, reimbursement schedules and timing of the balance payment, are defined by each participating Funding Agency and may vary by region. Where Annex 1 does not provide otherwise, the default rule under the call is that funded projects receive pre-financing of 50% of the granted contribution, normally within a maximum of 30 days from signature of the Grant Agreement, and the balance payment is made within 60 days from completion of the assessment of the final progress performance report. However, several regions depart from this default scheme through lower pre-financing, staged payments, reimbursement-based logic, guarantee requirements, or regional calls running in parallel to the PRECISEU process.

The table below summarises the main payment arrangements reflected in the current regional annexes. It is intended as a practical guide only.

Region / Funding Agency	Payment logic or noteworthy condition
Default call rule	Unless Annex 1 states otherwise, 50% pre-financing is paid after signature of the Grant Agreement and the balance is paid after approval of the final report.
Baden-Württemberg	25% advance in 2026, 25% interim payment after 12-month reporting, and 50% after final reporting. Beneficiaries must also comply with an additional 12-month reporting obligation to BIOPRO Baden-Württemberg.



Region / Funding Agency	Payment logic or noteworthy condition
Castilla-La Mancha	No additional regional specificities are set out at this stage in Annex 1. The applicable regional conditions, including financial and implementation provisions where relevant, will be specified in the Grant Agreement.
SALUT (Catalonia)	Pre-financing, interim reporting, final reporting and payment schedule are not yet specified in Annex 1 and will be established in the Grant Agreement.
ACCIÓ (Catalonia)	50% pre-financing and final payment after assessment of the final report. Despite the general call-level lump-sum model, ACCIÓ explicitly foresees financial control, audit and expenditure verification of eligible costs. A further grant application in Catalan is required after successful selection.
Crete	40% pre-financing and 60% final payment. For non-public entities, payment of the pre-financing is subject to submission of a bank letter of guarantee. A regional call will also apply.
Emilia-Romagna	No pre-financing. Payments are made through interim reimbursements every 6 months. The regional annex therefore departs clearly from the default pre-financing model.
Ireland	Up to 50% pre-financing upon signature of the Grant Agreement, with the balance paid after approval of the final report. Payments remain conditional on satisfactory implementation and delivery of agreed outcomes.
Lazio	40% pre-financing, possible interim payment up to 40%, and final payment of at least 20%. The pre-financing is subject to submission of a bank or insurance guarantee. Lazio beneficiaries must also comply with a separate regional call.
Lithuania	50% pre-financing and 50% final payment. Lithuanian partners must also provide additional national supporting documents.
North-East Romania	40% pre-financing may be provided upon submission of a bank letter of guarantee. Subsequent payments follow the regional call logic, including reimbursement requests and regular interim reporting every 3 months. A separate regional application is required for successful SME partners.

Practical recommendation for applicants



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Applicants should not assume that all partners in the same consortium will be subject to the same payment schedule. Payment conditions depend on the **Funding Agency supporting each beneficiary**, not only on the overall project. When preparing the proposal and internal cash-flow planning, consortia are strongly advised to:

- verify the payment logic applicable to each funded partner,
- take into account possible guarantee requirements,
- consider the existence of reimbursement-based regional schemes,
- anticipate any additional regional submission or reporting requirements, and
- reflect these differences in their internal coordination and implementation planning.

4.4. Eligible costs

Under the general call rules, eligible costs include direct staff costs, subcontracting or external expertise for additional and complementary tasks, other direct costs such as travel, consumables and equipment depreciation, and indirect costs calculated as 25% of eligible direct costs excluding subcontracting. Core project tasks should not be subcontracted, and subcontracting between partners in the same consortium is not allowed.

Applicants must ensure that the cost logic supports the technical narrative. If the work plan presents several major validation tasks, regulatory interactions and cross-regional collaboration activities, the budget must visibly reflect them. Conversely, if the budget assigns significant funds to a partner or work package, the technical part must explain the necessity of that effort. Inconsistency between Part B and Part C is one of the most common weaknesses in otherwise promising proposals.

It is also important to remember that some regions define eligible costs differently. By way of example, certain regional annexes explicitly list personnel, consumables, travel, audit certificates, equipment, overheads or specific flat rates. Where a regional annex diverges from the general framework, the regional rule applies to the beneficiary funded by that agency.

4.5. Oversubscription

The financial contribution to the Open Call differs across participating regions, as each Funding Agency allocates its own budget. For transparency purposes, indicative budgets per region are provided. However, applicants should note that final funding decisions are taken at regional level and depend on the availability of funds.

In addition, specific eligibility rules and administrative requirements may apply depending on the region. In some cases, applicants may be required to submit additional documentation related to their budget or eligibility before or after proposal submission. Applicants are therefore strongly encouraged to consult the regional conditions carefully.

After the evaluation process, proposals will be ranked according to their evaluation scores. Funding Agencies will use this ranking as the primary basis for their funding decisions. However, due to differences in regional budgets, not all highly ranked proposals may be funded.



In situations of oversubscription, or where funding constraints limit the ability to support all top-ranked proposals, additional criteria may be applied to ensure an efficient and balanced allocation of funds. These may include maximising the number of high-quality projects funded, ensuring optimal use of available regional budgets, and encouraging participation from regions that are underrepresented or have remaining available funds.

Where two or more proposals receive the same evaluation score, a priority order may be established based on these criteria.

A specific situation may arise where a highly ranked proposal cannot be funded because one or more partners are based in regions where the available budget has already been exhausted (a “funding gap”). In such cases, different options may be explored, such as adapting the consortium, reallocating budget where possible, or involving partners from regions with available funding. If no solution can be found, the proposal may not be funded, and lower-ranked proposals may be considered instead. As a consequence, the final funding awarded to a project may differ from the amount initially requested. In some cases, consortia may be invited to revise their budget or composition in line with funding availability.

This approach ensures a fair, transparent, and efficient use of public funds, while maintaining a high-quality portfolio of funded projects.

5. Preparing the application

A good proposal is more than a compliant form. It is a consistent narrative in which the consortium, the technical work, the expected impact and the budget all reinforce one another. The sections below explain how applicants should approach each part of the application package.

5.1. Part A – Identification of the project and consortium partners

Part A is sometimes treated as a purely administrative annex, but it plays an important evaluative role because it frames the consortium, the declarations and the basic identity of the proposal. The abstract should be written with care, since it often shapes the evaluator’s first understanding of the project. A useful abstract typically explains the unmet need, the proposed solution, the interregional logic, the expected results and the intended impact in a concise and accessible manner.

The participant tables should be used strategically. Rather than merely listing organisations, applicants should ensure that the information on expertise, relevant projects, infrastructures and teams supports the case for why each partner is needed. The most persuasive consortium sections make it obvious that the project would be weaker without the specific combination of partners included in the application.

Applicants must also pay close attention to the declarations included in Part A. These cover consent of all applicants, correctness and completeness of the proposal, eligibility and exclusion, financial and operational capacity, acceptance of the call conditions, ethics and research integrity, civil-only use, excluded activities, and budget reliability under the lump-sum model. These declarations should match the



substance of the proposal; they should not be contradicted elsewhere in the documents.

5.2. Part B – Description of the Action

Part B is the core of the application. Applicants should write Part B as a single connected narrative rather than as three isolated sections. In strong proposals, the objectives defined under Relevance are visibly translated into results, the results are connected to a pathway to impact, and the work plan explains convincingly how the consortium will deliver them.

5.2.1. RELEVANCE

The Relevance section should articulate the project's vision and its degree of ambition. Applicants should present general, specific and operational objectives, indicate the expected timeframe for achieving them, and describe how the proposed work goes beyond the state of the art. This is also the place to position the project along the relevant Technology Readiness Levels and to explain the innovation maturity at the start and end of the project.

The methodology should be presented as a robust and realistic approach to achieving the objectives. Applicants should explain the underlying concepts, assumptions and models, the main methodological choices, and any important challenges they foresee. Where relevant, the proposal should explain how sex and gender are considered in the research and innovation content, or provide a reasoned justification if they are not relevant. Open science practices, where appropriate, should also be integrated into the methodology rather than added as an afterthought.

5.2.2. QUALITY

The Quality section should demonstrate that the work is manageable, appropriately resourced and assigned to the right partners. Applicants should present a clear work package structure, a realistic sequence of tasks, a coherent timetable, and a justified distribution of person-months and other resources. The call explicitly recommends giving due visibility to project management, data management, dissemination and exploitation, and communication activities.

Deliverables and milestones should be more than a formal list. They should act as control instruments for the project. Good deliverables capture substantive outputs, while well-designed milestones show that the consortium understands where the key decision points and dependencies lie. Risks should be expressed honestly and paired with mitigation measures that are credible and operational. Overly optimistic risk tables are rarely persuasive.

The consortium description should explain complementarity, access to necessary infrastructure, and the role of each participant. If a self-funded or non-funded partner is included, the proposal should explain clearly why its participation is essential or strategically valuable.

5.2.3. IMPACT

The Impact section should explain how the project's results will make a difference beyond the immediate implementation period. Applicants should describe the project's contribution to the expected outcomes and impacts of the call, identify the target groups that will benefit, and explain the scale and significance of



the expected change. Where possible, this should be supported by quantified estimates that relate specifically to the proposed project.

Applicants should then describe the measures that will maximise impact, covering dissemination, exploitation and communication. These three components should be treated distinctly. Dissemination refers to the sharing of results with relevant audiences. Exploitation concerns the further use of the results, whether through clinical uptake, scale-up, licensing, follow-on research or market deployment. Communication addresses broader visibility towards external stakeholders, media and society. The proposal should also outline a proportionate intellectual property strategy, especially where societal or economic exploitation is expected.

The summary table in the template should be approached as a consistency check. The relationship between needs, expected results, D&E&C measures, target groups, outcomes and impacts should be logical and easy to follow. If the chain is weak or generic, evaluators will often conclude that the project has not yet fully translated its technical ambitions into a credible impact pathway.

5.3. Part C – Budget

Part C translates the narrative into financial terms. It provides a simplified budget table to present the estimated eligible costs of the proposed project and the corresponding requested contribution. Applicants must complete the template carefully and ensure that the information is fully consistent with the project description in Part B, the consortium information in Part A, the applicable funding rules in the Call, and the regional conditions set out in Annex 1. The amount of financial support requested must remain within the maximum limits of the call, including the maximum contribution per project and per beneficiary. Unless regional conditions specify otherwise, the call provides for a maximum of EUR 3 000 000 per project and EUR 600 000 per beneficiary. Funding rates may differ depending on the type of entity and the region.

Applicants should complete the budget template partner by partner. Each participating entity should be entered on a separate row. The Coordinator should ensure that all participating entities included in the proposal are reflected in the budget table and that the consortium composition remains aligned with the eligibility rules of the call. In particular, applicants should verify that the three core funded partners are established in three different Funding Agency regions, that at least one SME from a Funding Agency region is included, and that any self-funded partners are clearly identifiable and treated consistently in the budget.

5.3.1. GENERAL PRINCIPLES

The budget must be expressed in **euro (EUR)** and must reflect the **estimated eligible costs** necessary for the implementation of the project. Only costs that are actually needed for the proposed work and that are proportionate to the project objectives should be included. Budgeted costs must be determined in accordance with the usual accounting and management principles of each applicant and must be used solely for the implementation of the proposed action. Costs outside the project duration, or costs that would lead to double funding, are not eligible.

Applicants should prepare the budget in a transparent and realistic manner. The budget should be credible in view of the work plan, the role of each participant, and the expected outcomes. Inflated, inconsistent or



poorly justified cost estimates may weaken the evaluation of the proposal under implementation and impact-related considerations. The call also expects applicants to take into account regional maximum amounts, State aid rules, pre-financing terms and any other region-specific financial conditions.

5.3.2. WHICH CELLS TO COMPLETE

Applicants should complete **only the white cells** of the budget template. Cells containing formulas, totals or automatically calculated values must not be modified. The template is designed to calculate indirect costs, total eligible costs and requested contribution automatically once the required inputs have been entered.

Before starting, applicants should select:

- the **project topic**;
- the **region** of each participating entity;
- the **type of entity** for each participant; and
- the applicable **funding rate**, where required by the template.

These selections must be consistent with the legal status of the participant, its place of establishment, and the conditions set out in the call and the relevant regional annex.

5.3.3. INFORMATION TO BE ENTERED FOR EACH PARTICIPANT

For each participant, applicants should provide:

- the partner short name;
- the region of establishment;
- the type of entity;
- the estimated direct costs by budget category; and
- the corresponding requested contribution.

Each partner must be entered only once. The data entered for each participant should reflect only the costs that will be incurred by that entity.

5.3.4. BUDGET CATEGORIES

The template is structured around the following cost categories.

A. Personnel costs

This category should include the estimated personnel costs of staff working on the project. Personnel costs should correspond to the actual effort necessary for implementation and should be consistent with the



tasks assigned to the participant in Part B. Only personnel costs directly linked to the project should be included.

B. Subcontracting costs

This category should include external expertise or services contracted to third parties. Subcontracting should be limited to additional or complementary tasks and must not cover core project tasks. Subcontracting between partners participating in the same proposal is not allowed. Under the call text, subcontracting costs may not exceed **20% of the total eligible costs of the project**, unless a more restrictive regional rule applies. Applicants should therefore verify both the call text and Annex 1 before finalising this item.

C. Purchase costs

This category includes:

- **Travel and subsistence;**
- **Equipment** (depreciation only, where applicable); and
- **Other goods, works and services.**

Applicants should include only those purchase costs that are necessary for implementation of the project and are proportionate to the planned activities. Equipment costs should be limited to the depreciation corresponding to the period and extent of use for the project, unless a specific regional rule provides otherwise.

D. Indirect costs

Indirect costs are calculated automatically by the template. Under the call, unless specified otherwise in Annex 1, indirect costs are calculated as **25% of eligible direct costs, excluding subcontracting**, in line with Horizon Europe practice. Applicants should therefore not enter a value manually in the indirect cost cell unless the template or a region-specific version expressly requires this.

5.3.5. FUNDING RATE AND REQUESTED CONTRIBUTION

The requested contribution for each participant must be calculated on the basis of the applicable funding rate, taking into account the legal status of the applicant, the relevant State aid framework, and any regional specificities set out in Annex 1 of the Call. Funding rates and financial conditions may vary depending on the region, the beneficiary type, and the legal basis used by the relevant Funding Agency. Applicants must therefore verify the regional annex applicable to each funded participant before finalising the budget.

Unless Annex 1 provides otherwise, the PRECISEU Open Call applies the following general funding rates:

- 100% for non-profit legal entities established in Funding Agency regions; and



- 70% for profit-making legal entities established in Funding Agency regions.

Participants established in PRECISEU non-funding regions or in regions outside the eligible funding territories generally participate on a self-funded basis and should therefore not request PRECISEU financial support, unless a specific regional provision expressly states otherwise.

General PRECISEU funding rates

Type of participant	Region	General funding rate*
Non-profit legal entity	PRECISEU Funding Agency region	100%
Profit-making legal entity	PRECISEU Funding Agency region	70%
Any legal entity	PRECISEU non-funding region	0%
Any legal entity	Outside eligible funding regions	0%

* Unless Annex 1 provides otherwise.

Applicants must ensure that the requested contribution per beneficiary does not exceed the applicable maximum and that the project total remains within the overall ceilings of the call. In particular:

- the maximum financial contribution per project is EUR 3 000 000; and
- the maximum contribution per beneficiary is EUR 600 000, unless a stricter regional cap applies.

Applicants must also check whether the relevant regional annex sets:

- different funding rates,
- lower maximum amounts,
- different payment conditions,
- additional regional eligibility criteria, or
- further constraints linked to State aid, beneficiary type, or regional eligibility.

State aid considerations

Where a beneficiary carries out an economic activity within the meaning of Article 107(1) TFEU, the requested contribution must also comply with the applicable State aid rules. Under the call text, the relevant legal basis may be de minimis or Article 25 GBER, depending on the region and the type of beneficiary. Under de minimis, the total amount of aid granted to a single undertaking must not exceed



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EUR 300 000 over any period of 3 years. Under Article 25 GBER, aid intensity for experimental development depends on enterprise size and the applicable uplift conditions.

For the purposes of this Open Call, and assuming compliance with Article 25(6)(a) and Article 25(6)(d) GBER, the call sets out the following maximum aid intensities for experimental development:

Type of undertaking	Maximum aid intensity
Large enterprise	50%
Medium-sized enterprise	60%
Small enterprise	70%

Applicants should therefore not assume that the general PRECISEU funding rate automatically applies in every case without checking the regional legal framework. The final funding conditions applicable to each beneficiary are those confirmed by the competent Funding Agency under the applicable legal regime.

Non-profit entities and non-economic activities

Applicants should distinguish carefully between:

- the general PRECISEU category of non-profit legal entities, which may receive up to 100% funding under the call rules; and
- research and knowledge dissemination organisations carrying out non-economic activities, which may fall outside State aid rules, provided the relevant legal conditions are fulfilled.

According to the call text, 100% funding may apply to research and knowledge dissemination organisations that do not engage in economic activity, provided that a separate accounting system is maintained where required.

Practical instructions for applicants

When completing the budget, applicants should:

- identify the legal status of each participant;
- determine whether the participant is profit-making or non-profit;
- verify whether the participant is established in a Funding Agency region, a non-funding PRECISEU region, or an outside region;
- check whether the applicable regional annex sets specific rates, caps or State aid conditions;



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- calculate the requested contribution accordingly; and
- ensure that self-funded partners do not request PRECISEU financial support.

5.3.6. REGIONAL SPECIFICITIES

The budget table must always be read together with **Annex 1 – Regional Annex**. Regional conditions may differ with regard to:

- eligible beneficiaries;
- applicable funding rates;
- maximum funding per beneficiary;
- pre-financing and payment schedule;
- State aid regime;
- eligible costs;
- indirect cost treatment;
- audit or expenditure verification requirements; and
- parallel national or regional submission requirements.

Applicants are therefore strongly advised to verify the regional annex applicable to each funded partner before submitting the proposal. Where regional provisions differ from the general provisions of the call, the regional provisions prevail for the beneficiaries funded by that Funding Agency.

5.3.7. CONSISTENCY CHECKS BEFORE SUBMISSION

Before submitting the proposal, the Coordinator should verify that:

- all participants listed in Part A are reflected in Part C;
- the budget is coherent with the work plan described in Part B;
- no self-funded partner is incorrectly shown as requesting PRECISEU funding;
- the requested contribution per partner does not exceed the applicable ceiling;
- the overall project budget does not exceed the call maximum;
- the funding rates used are correct for each entity;



- subcontracting is justified and remains within the applicable limit;
- the budget does not include ineligible costs or double funding; and
- any regional-specific conditions have been taken into account.

5.3.8. IMPORTANT NOTE FOR APPLICANTS

Part C is intended to provide a clear and credible estimate of the financial structure of the project at proposal stage. Submission of a budget does not create an entitlement to funding. The final awarded contribution may differ from the amount requested, depending on the evaluation results, the availability of regional budgets, and any adjustments made during Grant Agreement preparation.

6. Award criteria

Eligible proposals are evaluated against three criteria: Relevance, Impact, and Quality. Scores are given on a scale from 0 to 5 per criterion, with a minimum threshold of 3 for each criterion and an overall threshold of 10. In case of a tie, the Impact score is considered first, followed by Relevance.

Applicants should therefore resist the temptation to overload the technical section while underdeveloping impact or implementation. The three criteria are balanced, and proposals with strong science but weak pathway-to-impact reasoning or poor implementation design do not usually perform well in a Horizon Europe-style evaluation framework.

Criterion	What evaluators mainly look for
Relevance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarity and pertinence of the project’s objectives, and the extent to which the proposed work addresses the scope, priorities and expected outcomes of the Open Call. <p>Extent to which the proposed work is ambitious, responds to clearly identified needs, and goes beyond the state of the art.</p>
Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soundness and feasibility of the proposed methodology, including the underlying concepts, models, assumptions, interdisciplinary approaches, and, where relevant, appropriate consideration of the gender dimension and open science practices. <p>Quality and efficiency of the implementation, including the work plan, allocation of resources, risk assessment, and the capacity and complementarity of the consortium.</p>
Impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Credibility of the pathways to achieve the expected outcomes



Criterion	What evaluators mainly look for
	<p>and impacts specified in Section 3.3, and the likely scale and significance of the project’s contributions.</p> <p>Suitability and quality of the measures to maximise expected outcomes and impacts, including dissemination, exploitation and communication activities.</p>

7. Registration of a new entity

All participants must be registered in the European Commission Participant Register and must have a Participant Identification Code, or PIC. If an organisation is not yet registered, it should start the process as early as possible. Registration, validation and LEAR appointment can take time, especially when legal documentation must be checked or corrected.

7.1. Access the registration platform of the Commission portal

To register an organisation, the user must access the [EU Funding & Tenders Portal](#) and sign in with an EU Login account. Before starting a new registration, the organisation should search the [Participant Register](#) to verify whether a PIC already exists. Duplicate registrations should be avoided, as they complicate validation and proposal preparation.

7.2. Registration of entities

The registration process collects the core identity of the entity and assigns the self-registrant role to the person carrying it out. During this stage, applicants should ensure that the legal name, address, country and contact details are entered exactly as they appear in the organisation’s official documents.

7.2.1. PROVIDE THE IDENTIFICATION DATA OF THE ENTITY

The first practical step is to enter the entity’s identifying data. This normally includes the official legal name, country, address and organisation contact details. The information should be complete and consistent with supporting documentation, since discrepancies at this point often lead to delays during validation.

7.2.2. PROVIDE THE IDENTIFICATION DATA OF THE ENTITY IN OPERATIONAL FORM

Applicants should then provide the operational details used by the portal, such as additional contacts and the organisational information needed for proposal participation. If more than one person is involved in the future proposal, it is advisable to include additional relevant contact details during registration rather than relying on a single self-registrant.

7.2.3. PROVIDE LEGAL INFORMATION

The portal requests legal information necessary to classify and validate the organisation. Depending on the legal form and country, supporting legal and financial documents may be required later during validation. Applicants should prepare these in advance and ensure that the legal status used in the proposal is the



same as the one declared in the Participant Register.

7.2.4. DEFINE AUTHORIZED USERS

The person who registers the organisation becomes the self-registrant and can manage certain data while the organisation remains in declared status. Once the organisation is validated, the Legal Entity Appointed Representative, or LEAR, plays a central role in maintaining organisational data and appointing persons allowed to sign or manage activities in the portal. There can only be one LEAR per organisation.

7.2.5. SUMMARY

Before final submission of the registration, the portal presents a summary of the entered data. This step should be used as an internal quality check. Legal name, address, country and organisational details should all be verified carefully before confirmation.

7.2.6. SUCCESS SCREEN

Once the registration is submitted, the system assigns a PIC. This PIC is necessary to participate in proposals. However, receiving a PIC does not mean that the organisation is already fully validated; validation remains a separate process managed by the Central Validation Service.

7.3. Validation of entities

After registration, the organisation must undergo validation. The Central Validation Service may request additional documentation or clarifications. Applicants should monitor the portal notifications and email messages carefully, since validation requests often have deadlines and unresolved issues can prevent grant signature even if a proposal is selected.

7.4. Required documentation

The precise documentation depends on the legal form and country, but typically includes legal existence documents, VAT or tax documents where relevant, and documents confirming the authorised representative or organisational status. Any update to legal or financial information in the Participant Register may also require supporting evidence.

7.5. LEAR appointment

The appointment of the LEAR is mandatory for validated organisations. Without a LEAR, the organisation cannot fully manage its legal entity data in the portal and cannot complete certain contractual operations. Applicants should therefore anticipate LEAR appointment well before grant preparation.

7.6. Identification of the LEAR

The LEAR should be a person within the organisation who can reliably manage legal entity information and related portal roles. The person should be identified internally at an early stage and should be available to complete the appointment workflow and provide the necessary supporting documents.

7.7. Preparation of documents

The self-registrant and the legal representative appointing the LEAR may need to prepare and sign specific



supporting documents. Since these documents often require internal approvals, it is advisable not to leave this stage until immediately before proposal submission or grant preparation.

7.8. Submission of documents

LEAR appointment and validation documents are submitted through the portal as instructed by the relevant workflow and by the messages received from the Central Validation Service. The organisation should ensure that the submitted files are complete, legible and consistent with the data already entered in the Participant Register.

7.9. Process completion

The registration process is fully completed only when the organisation is validated and the LEAR appointment is in place. For PRECISEU applicants, the operational lesson is simple: do not assume that a provisional or declared PIC status is enough for the entire call lifecycle. Validation issues that are manageable at proposal stage can become blocking issues during grant preparation if not addressed in time.

8. Support and contacts

Applicants may contact the PRECISEU Coordination Team via preciseu@biocat.cat for questions regarding the scope of the call, eligibility conditions, proposal preparation and general submission matters. Questions concerning region-specific funding conditions should be addressed to the corresponding Funding Agency, as indicated in the regional annexes.

Region	Funding Agency contact email
Baden-Württemberg	luther@bio-pro.de
Castilla-La Mancha	preciseu@biocat.cat
Catalonia – SALUT	peris@gencat.cat
Catalonia – ACCIÓ	preciseu.accio@gencat.cat
Crete	krousaki@crete.gov.gr ; cbilios@crete.gov.gr ; epetrogianni@crete.gov.gr ; ibo4@creteregion.gr
Emilia-Romagna	infoporfesr@regione.emilia-romagna.it
Ireland	Julia.Rakovets@nibrt.ie



Region	Funding Agency contact email
Lazio	i.corsi@lazioinnova.it ; infobandi@lazioinnova.it
Lithuania	v.simanauskiene@inovacijuagentura.lt
North-East Romania	lucian.sandu@adrnordest.ro ; bgris3@adrnordest.ro

As a final recommendation, applicants should treat this guide as a working companion to the official documents. The best proposals usually emerge from an iterative drafting process in which consortium design, technical narrative, regional eligibility and budget logic are checked together rather than sequentially. A proposal that is scientifically interesting but administratively fragile, or administratively correct but strategically generic, is unlikely to be competitive in this call.

9. Call Documents

Applicants are encouraged to consult all relevant documentation carefully before preparing and submitting their proposal. The following documents form an integral part of the call package and provide detailed information on requirements, procedures, and templates.

The full set of annexes and supporting documents can be accessed via the [PRECISEU website](#):

- Terms and Conditions of the Call
- Application Templates:
 - Part A – Administrative Information
 - Part B – Technical Description
 - Part C – Budget
- Declaration of Honour
- Regional Annexes (including region-specific rules and requirements)

Applicants should ensure that they are using the latest versions of all documents and that their proposal complies with both the general call requirements and any applicable regional conditions.



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